

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 134353

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TO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 134353

EXDIS FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ENDERS

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 134353 ACTION PARIS 09 JUN 75

QUOTE

S E C R E T STATE 134353

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM

SUBJECT: US/FRENCH TALKS ON NUCLEAR MATTERS

1. VEST (DIRECTOR, PM) AND INTERAGENCY GROUP MET JUNE 6 WITH FRENCH DELEGATION HEADED BY M. GIRARD (CHARGE OF ATOMIC AFFAIRS, GENERAL DELEGATION FOR ENERGY) AND M. ESPER (MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY) TO DISCUSS BILATERAL ISSUES RAISED BY SAUVAGNARGUES' LETTER OF APRIL 7: US

COCOM POLICY AND US/FRENCH LICENSING ARRANGEMENTS. FRENCH EMBASSY HAD BEEN WARNED BEFOREHAND THAT ISSUES ARE STILL UNDER INTERAGENCY STUDY SO DELEGATION KNEW IT WOULD BE ONLY EXPLORATORY MEETING.

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 134353

2. ON COCOM, FRENCH REQUESTED US DROP SAFEGUARDS AS CONDITION FOR LWR SALES TO SOVIET UNION AND NOT RAISE OTHER OBSTACLES TO SALE. THEY ALSO PROPOSED THAT US AND FRENCH AGREE ON GENERAL PRINCIPLES FOR EXPORT OF LWRS TO COCOM

EMBARGOED COUNTRIES AND CONSULT BEFOREHAND ON SPECIAL CASES WHERE GENERAL PRINCIPLES DID NOT APPLY, OR APPLICATION UNCLEAR.

3. ON US/FRENCH LICENSING, FRENCH WOULD LIKE TO SUPPRESS PROVISIONS IN WESTINGHOUSE AND GE LICENSING AGREEMENT THAT REQUIRE FRENCH LICENSEES TO CONFORM TO US EXPORT LAWS AND REGULATIONS.

4. VEST TOLD FRENCH COMPREHENSIVE INTERAGENCY STUDY WAS UNDERWAY ON QUESTION OF US POLICY IN COCOM ON LWRS AND US POLICY ON US INDUSTRY SALES TO COCOM EMBARGOED COUNTRIES. WE ARE ALSO EXAMINING US/FRENCH LICENSING ARRANGEMENTS IN LATTER CONTEXT.

5. US STUDY OF COCOM POLICY IS LOOKING AT STRATEGIC CONCERNS; POSSIBLE DIVERSION OF PU FOR WEAPONS, TRANSFER OF UNIQUE TECHNOLOGICAL KNOW-HOW USEFUL IN MILITARY PROGRAMS AND TRANSFER OF WESTERN URANIUM.

6. ON US/FRENCH LICENSING ARRANGEMENTS, US DEL SAID US LICENSOR PROVISIONS REQUIRING LICENSEE CONFORMANCE WITH US EXPORT REGULATIONS FLOW FROM PROHIBITION OF SECTION 57.B.2 OF ATOMIC ENERGY ACT CONCERNING "INDIRECTLY ENGAGING IN PRODUCTION OF SPECIAL NUCLEAR MATERIAL OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES" AND AEC REGULATIONS 10CFR PART 110 WHICH AUTHORIZES PRODUCTION OF NUCLEAR MATERIALS OUTSIDE THE US, EXCEPT IN COCOM-EMBARGOED COUNTRIES, WHERE SPECIFIC US AUTHORIZATION IS REQUIRED. US DEL MADE POINT THAT VIOLATION OF SECTION 57.B.2 IS CRIMINAL OFFENSE. USG ASSURANCES TO US INDUSTRY, EVEN IF FEASIBLE, WOULD PROBABLY NOT BE SUFFICIENT BASIS FOR US COMPANIES TO BE ABLE TO DROP THE CLAUSES; RATHER A CHANGE IN REGULATION (PART 110) WOULD BE REQUIRED. ON OTHER HAND, US DID NOT INTEND TO USE ONE POLICY IN COCOM AND ANOTHER RECONSIDERATION OF FRENCH LICENSEES REQUESTS UNDER PART 110.

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 134353

7. FRENCH DEL STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF LICENSING QUESTION TO THEIR GOVERNMENT AND RELATIONSHIPS THEY SAW BETWEEN POSITIVE US RESPONSE ON LICENSING ISSUE, NUCLEAR SUPPLIERS AGREEMENT AND COCOM ARRANGEMENTS. VESTTHANKED FRENCH FOR FRANK AND USEFUL DISCUSSION, SAID THAT US UNDERSTOOD IMPORTANCE FRENCH PLACED ON LICENSING QUESTION, AND SAID US WOULD FACTOR FRENCH CONCERNS INTO US ONGOING STUDY. VEST ALSO SAID THAT WE WOULD KEEP FRENCH INFORMED OF US STUDY. VEST CONVEYED THOUGHT THAT US WOULD TRY TO BE AS FORTHCOMING AS POSSIBLE ON THESE MATTERS. KISSINGER

UNQUOTE. KISSINGER

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